

around the world living with rare diseases and who rely on the availability of plasma protein therapies, no day is ordinary.

On October 8 to 12, 2018, across the United States and throughout the world, patients, plasma donors and plasma collection centers will join together to observe International Plasma Awareness Week (IPAW). There will be events to raise global awareness of the crucial need for plasma to create life-saving therapies, recognize that plasma donors contribute greatly in saving and improving lives, and increase understanding of the many rare diseases and plasma protein therapies that help to treat them.

Plasma-derived therapies and recombinant blood clotting factors, collectively known as plasma protein therapies, are unique, biologic medicines that are either infused or injected to treat a variety of rare, life-threatening, chronic, and genetic diseases including bleeding disorders, hereditary angioedema, immune deficiencies, pulmonary disorders, neurological disorders, shock and trauma, liver cirrhosis, and infectious diseases such as tetanus, hepatitis, and rabies.

Plasma-derived therapies save and improve lives of individuals throughout the world, including in emergency and surgical medicine. Plasma protein therapies have significantly improved the quality of life, markedly improved patient outcomes, and extended the life expectancy of individuals with rare, chronic diseases and conditions.

Healthy, committed donors provide the plasma essential to manufacture these lifesaving therapies; and there are now approximately 700 plasma collection centers in the U.S. that have demonstrated their commitment to plasma donor and patient safety and quality by earning International Quality Plasma Program (IQPP) certification.

I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me and rise in commemoration of International Plasma Awareness Week, honoring those committed donors and collection centers who make and collect needed and lifesaving contributions.

TRIBUTE CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. JOHN AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 9, 2018

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church of Cottageville, South Carolina, on the occasion of its 150th anniversary celebration on the weekend of September 14th–16th, 2018. The journey that has brought St. John A.M.E. Church to this moment began in 1868 when the Church, originally named St. Matthew A.M.E., was established in the Burr Hill community under a bush arbor.

Responding to the need for a more secure structure, the Reverend James Nesbitt and the officials of the Charleston District, with the assistance of the Church's founding fathers, organized the building of a church constructed of lightwood boards, heated by a potbelly stove, and illuminated by kerosene lamps. The Church served members from several different

communities and was the site for a public school.

In 1912, the Church was relocated to a parcel of land more central to the communities it served both in Burr Hill and Mack Village. The area is now known as Griffith Acres Drive in Cottageville, South Carolina. St. John A.M.E.'s present facility was erected in 1975 where the Church continued to flourish and where, with the help of a supportive membership, a Fellowship Hall was constructed to serve as a dining facility and hub for entertainment and educational activities.

Since its inception, St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church and its congregation have acted as a beacon of light within the community. The programs and ministries initiated by the Church have served as models for A.M.E. churches in the area and for other denominations as well. St. John A.M.E. continues to positively impact the residents of Cottageville, a small town west of Charleston in Colleton County, through community-oriented programs, including: summer math and reading camps, church school, vacation bible school, revivals, bible study, and creative and performing arts.

Always striving to serve God and the community in new and innovative ways, St. John has piloted a new program called "The Iron Sharpeners" to encourage young African-American men to pursue internship opportunities and has planted a new community garden which has produced a fresh harvest available to members, free of charge.

Despite the uncertain and adverse climate in which St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church was planted, the strength of spirit and faith has allowed the Church to blossom and thrive through the years. St. John exemplifies what it means to be "rooted in faith" and is a place that people of various geographic locations and stations in life still refer to as "home."

It is my great honor to pay tribute to this fine congregation. I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church on their 150th anniversary and wishing them continued strength and prosperity in the days ahead.

SALUTING BILL AND SUE WELSER FOR THEIR DEDICATION TO OUR NATION'S VETERANS

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 9, 2018

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize Bill and Sue Welser for their leadership in the Space Coast Honor Flight program, which serves Florida's Brevard and Indian River County veterans.

Space Coast Honor Flight is a non-profit organization that honors our World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War veterans by taking them to visit their war memorials in Washington, D.C.

A retired U.S. Air Force Lieutenant General, Bill first became involved with the Honor Flight Network when he volunteered to serve as a guardian for a WWII veteran on the local chapter's second flight. This moving experience led Bill to work with a small cadre of vol-

unteers to develop and run what would eventually become Space Coast Honor Flight. Bill has served as the president of the organization for more than eight years.

Seeing the profound impact that Space Coast Honor Flight has had on our veterans, Bill's wife, Sue, joined the board and quickly became an integral part of all its activities. Sue serves as one of the veteran coordinators for the organization and is responsible for helping to create honor flight experiences for hundreds of veterans.

Bill and Sue have also tirelessly given their time to organizing Space Coast orientations, flight departure ceremonies, veterans' reunions, and luncheons across the Space and Treasure Coasts. They have spent countless hours visiting our veterans in nursing homes and hospitals. They have attended a number of funeral services for our veteran heroes—Space Coast Honor Flight is often the first to be called when our veteran families lose a loved one.

For the past eight years, Bill and Sue have been responsible for organizing, scheduling, and leading 52 flights, allowing 1,375 veterans to spend time at their war memorials in Washington, D.C. Bill has participated in every single flight.

One of the greatest privileges Katie and I have is greeting our veterans as they depart on their honor flight to our nation's capital or greeting them in Washington, D.C. as they arrive on the National Mall to visit their memorials. Our veterans' courage and service to the country has helped change the course of history and has protected America and the freedoms we hold dear. Hosting these honor flights is the least we can do to acknowledge their service, and I am thankful for the work that Bill and Sue have done to make these flights possible.

I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in saluting the passion, dedication, and commitment of Bill and Sue Welser. Their efforts and service honors our veterans each and every day and has been vital to the success of the Space Coast Honor Flight mission.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF DICK ROBINSON

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 9, 2018

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Dick Robinson who is to receive the Distinction Award from the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation's Rocky Mountain Chapter on October 10th, 2018.

I have had the privilege of knowing Dick for many years. His story is truly a remarkable one. A fourth generation Colorado resident, he is a graduate of Colorado State University and has dedicated most of his life to bettering our state and community through countless charitable and community projects; while during much of that time maintaining his family's dairy business alongside his brother. Mr. Robinson embodies a spirit of service, recognized throughout the state of Colorado.

Dick Robinson began his career of service in the U.S. Army, earning a Silver Star,

Bronze Star, and Purple Heart, while leading troops as an artillery officer during the Korean War. Upon his return home to Colorado, he, along with his brother, turned Robinson Dairy into a nationally regarded business. After selling it in 1999, Dick Robinson became the Co-Founder of the Dean Foods Denver operation. Throughout his successful business career, he has also taken on many additional responsibilities. These have included, serving as the chair of charities such as the Milk Processor's Education Program, the Denver Area Council Boy Scouts of America, the Greater Denver Chamber of Commerce, the Rose Community Foundation as well as many other organizations to better our community. Some of his other commitments include the boards of the Denver Art Museum, HCA-HealthONE, and Regis University.

Dick Robinson's spirit of service is invaluable in the Denver Metro area where he has been so active, and it is in the spirit of this service that he is celebrated by the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation Distinction Award. Congratulations to Dick Robinson.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Wednesday, October 10, 2018 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

OCTOBER 11

Time to be announced

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

Business meeting to consider S. 2679, to provide access to and manage the dis-

tribution of excess or surplus property to veteran-owned small businesses, S. 3552, to amend the Small Business Act to adjust the real estate appraisal thresholds under the 7(a) program of the Small Business Administration to bring those thresholds into line with the thresholds used by the Federal banking regulators, S. 3553, to amend the Small Business Act to adjust the real estate appraisal thresholds under the section 504 program of the Small Business Administration to bring those thresholds into line with the thresholds used by the Federal banking regulators, S. 3554, to extend the effective date for the sunset for collateral requirements for Small Business Administration disaster loans, an original bill entitled, "National Guard and Reserve Entrepreneurship Act", and an original bill entitled, "Small Business Runway Extension Act of 2018".

TBA

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To receive a closed briefing on the military threat posed by near peer adversaries China and Russia.

SVC-217

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard

To hold hearings to examine the future of the fleets, focusing on Coast Guard and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ship recapitalization.

SR-253

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the cryptocurrency and blockchain ecosystem.

SD-538

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine blackstart and other system restoration plans in the electric utility industry.

SD-366

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 2785, to designate foreign persons who improperly interfere in United States elections as inadmissible aliens, S. 3178, to amend title 18, United States Code, to specify lynching as a deprivation of civil rights, and the nominations of Jonathan A. Kobes, of South Dakota, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit, Kenneth D. Bell, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of North Carolina, Stephanie A. Gallagher, to be United States District Judge for the District

of Maryland, Mary S. McElroy, to be United States District Judge for the District of Rhode Island, Carl J. Nichols, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, John M. O'Connor, to be United States District Judge for the Northern, Eastern and Western Districts of Oklahoma, and Martha Maria Pacold, Mary M. Rowland, and Steven C. Seeger, each to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

SD-226

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of John Mark Pommersheim, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Tajikistan, Department of State.

SD-419

2 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

OCTOBER 16

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Rita Baranwal, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Nuclear Energy), Bernard L. McNamee, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and Raymond David Vela, of Texas, to be Director of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

SD-366

OCTOBER 17

3 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities

To hold hearings to examine implications of China's presence and investment in Africa.

SR-222

OCTOBER 18

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine pilot programs at Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

SD-538